# westminster insider Mews



#### SEPTEMBER 2021 | VOLUME 2, ISSUE 3.5

# CITY OF WESTMINSTER PARTNERS WITH VANGUARD UNIVERSITY TO KICK OFF HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH



National Hispanic Heritage Month is observed from 15 to October 15 and Westminster September Transportation Manager Adolfo Ozaeta and Dr. Jeff Hittenberger, Professor of Education at Vanguard University, partnered to help recognize the achievements and contributions of our Hispanic American community and honor their rich culture. Student teachers from Vanguard University were invited to the Family Resource Center and were introduced to the city's efforts to educate people about the historic Mendez v. Westminster School District case. Our guests toured the Mendez Tribute Monument Park (currently under construction) and Mendez Freedom Trail (future bikeway along Hoover Street). Mendez v. Westminster School District was a federal court case in 1946 that challenged the segregation of Mexican students, ultimately leading to the historic Brown v. Board of Education.

#### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

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Fall Student Art Contest

Free OCTA Bus Passes for Youth Ages 6-18

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Other News

#### **FOLLOW US!**











#### **CONTACT US:**

cityhallpio@Westminster-CA.gov

Get the vaccine news you need

COVIDVACCINEFACTS.com Chealth



The COVID-19 vaccine is available to everyone ages 12 and older.

See details for minors.







**Questions about COVID-19 or** the COVID-19 vaccine?

Call (714) 834-2000

The OC Health Care Agency Hotline offers automated responses to FAOs 24/7 and live, trained operators from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday-Friday.







### **NOW HIRING:**

- Code Enforcement Officer
- Maintenance Helper
- Police Aide
- Recreation Leader



GOVERNMENTJOBS.COM/CAREERS/WESTMINSTER

# PAY ONLINE!

WWW.WESTMINSTER-CA.GOV/PAY



#### **BUSINESS RESOURCES**





Check out our <u>"Local Business Resources"</u> page for information and resources available through local agencies and non-profit organizations!

# **Growth Summit**

An Orange County Small Business Conference

Wednesday, September 29 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

> Great Wolf Lodge 12681 Harbor Blvd. Garden Grove, CA 92840

A successful business awaits! Register at <a href="https://ociesbdc.org/growth-summit">ociesbdc.org/growth-summit</a>.

Use our exclusive partner promo code: partner21

Marketing | Finance | Operations | Funding | Workforce





#### VETERAN WEBINAR SERIES

**SESSION 4** 

FUNDING & BUSINESS IDEAS FOR VETERANS

Join us for this webinar to learn about the funding opportunities for veteran entrepreneurs, business ideas, and why veterans and franchising are a perfect fit.



Craig Russom
Business Consultant
OC/IE SBDC



Matt Wiggins
Associate Manager
VetFran



Julie Sattoff Veteran Business Owner

**Rocket Dogs** 

& Wendy Klug
Director

VBOC of the Dakotas

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 1:00 -3:00PM (PST) ON ZOOM

#### Hosted by

SBA Orange County & Inland Empire
District Office

Africa Rosas



SBA

U.S. Small Business Administration

Register Here

#### **BUDGET UPDATE:** *JULY 1, 2020 - MARCH 31, 2021*

#### 2020-2021 Review

This report contains information on resources through the 3rd quarter of FY 2020-21, which is the period between July 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021.

#### **Top Revenues**

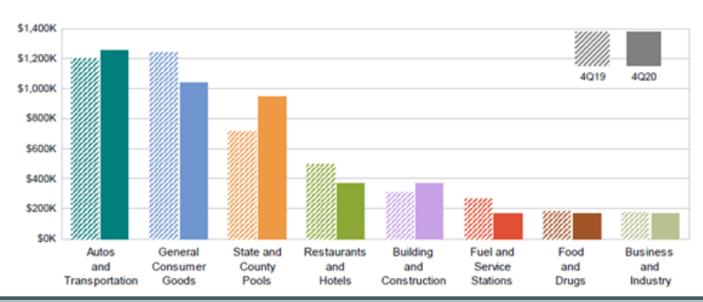
The top revenue sources for the City's General Fund are sales tax, transaction use tax, property tax, utility users tax and charges for service which combined make up 89% of total General Fund revenue. Current projections for FY 2020-21 are in line with budgeted numbers with the exception of sales tax/transaction use tax which is projected to be higher than budgeted. FY 2020-21 revenues were originally budgeted at \$60.2 million with a current revised budget of \$61.7 million adjusted to include already received COVID Cares funding of \$1.5 million. Through the 3rd quarter, we have received \$39.8 million in revenue in the General Fund or 64.5% as of March 31, 2021.

#### Sales Tax/Transaction Use Tax

The following charts, from the City's sales tax consultant HdL, represent 4th quarter calendar year sales, July 2020 through December 2020. Year-over-year comparison show Westminster's receipts down 2.3% from the fourth quarter sales in the prior period. The major drops are due to the impacts of COVID-19. Consumer spending increased as more retail stores re-opened, but revenues are still below pre-pandemic levels and consumers continue to prefer online shopping. As you can see in the first chart, there is a large increase in the State and County pools which are online sales. The second chart shows the category changes for the transaction use tax. As you can see in the second chart, there is no category for pools because the transaction use tax generated from online sales is allocated directly to the City. Westminster's share of the taxes generated from online purchases of our residents stay within the City.

#### Sales and Use Tax

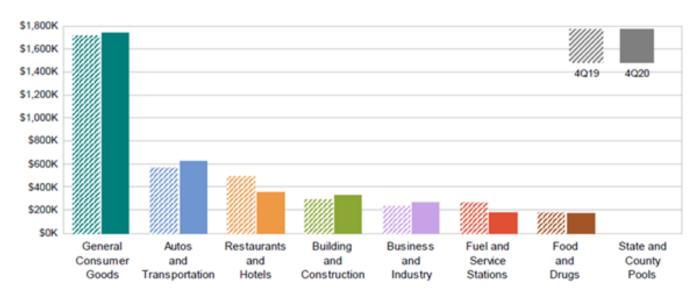
4Q19 Compared To 4Q20



#### BUDGET UPDATE: JULY 1, 2020 - MARCH 31, 2021 (CONT'D)

#### **Transaction Use Tax (Measure SS)**

4Q19 Compared To 4Q20



Sales tax and transaction use tax receipts are remitted to the City in arrears so the quarter totals shown in the table below represent seven months of receipts from the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA). Projections from the City's sales tax consultant, HdL, anticipate FY 2020-21 receipts to be slightly above the actuals received for FY 2019-20. This is a still an estimate as we have only received the 7 months of receipts for FY 2020-21, however, the increase would be \$2.3 million higher than budgeted. We will continue to actively track this important revenue source.

	YTD Q3			Prior Years	Increase/	
	Budget	Actual	% of	Q3 Actual	(Decrease)	
	2020-21	2020-21	Budget	2019-20	from PY	
Sales and Use Tax	\$ 15,133,600	\$ 9,944,616	65.7%	\$10,080,046	\$ (135,430)	
Transaction Use Tax	11,883,000	8,159,367	68.7%	8,177,090	(17,723)	
	\$ 27,016,600	\$ 18,103,983	67.0%	\$18,257,136	\$ (153,153)	

#### **Property Tax**

Property tax revenue is trending slightly higher than the prior fiscal year. This estimate is pretty close to actual as most of the revenue from property tax receipts come in December and April.

		YTD Q3			Increase/	
	Budget	Actual	% of	Q3 Actual	(Decrease)	
	2020-21	2020-21	Budget	2019-20	from PY	
Property Tax	\$ 17,624,000	\$ 9,261,321	52.5%	\$ 8,750,040	\$ 511,281	

#### **BUDGET UPDATE:** *JULY 1, 2020 - MARCH 31, 2021 (CONT'D)*

#### **Utility Users Tax**

Utility user's tax is slightly more than the prior year but in line with the budget.

	YTD Q3			Prior Years	Increase/	
	Budget	Actual	% of	Q3 Actual	(Decrease)	
	2020-21 2020-21		Budget	2019-20	from PY	
Utility Users Tax	\$ 4,200,000	\$ 2,989,622	71.2%	\$ 2,940,503	\$ 49,119	

#### **Charges for Service**

Charges for service are looking positive for FY 2020-21. This is partly due to the Cost Recovery Study adopted in FY 2019-20 and the development activity within the City. Receipts to date are lower than the same time last year however, overall projections to year end are favorable.

		YTD Q3	% of	Prior Years	Increase/ (Decrease)	
	Budget	Actual	2020-21	Q3 Actual		
	2020-21	2020-21	Budget	2019-20	from PY	
Charges for Service	\$ 4,495,061	\$ 3,810,783	84.8%	\$ 4,090,093	\$ (279,309)	

#### **Expenditures**

General Fund expenditures are tracking on budget. Expenditures for the 3rd quarter of FY 2020-21 are \$482 thousand over the prior fiscal year at the same time. This is due to the increase in PERS costs and OCFA contract costs.

		YTD Q3	% of	Prior Years	Increase/	
	Budget	Actual	2020-21	Q3 Actual	(D	ecrease)
	2020-21	2020-21	Budget	2019-20	from PY	
Expenditures	\$ 64,507,329	\$49,763,179	77.1%	\$49,281,500	\$	481,678

At this time, revenue and expenditures are tracking within budget so no budget adjustment is necessary. The next update will be provided after nine months of revenue and expenditures, for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Erin Backs, Finance Director at ebacks@westminster-ca.gov or (714) 548-3185.

# Virtual Meetings (1)



In an effort to protect public health and prevent the spread of COVID-19, in lieu of attending the meeting, members of the public may view the meeting live in one of the following ways:

- City of Westminster YouTube Channel
- **City of Westminster Streaming Video Online**
- Westminster WTV: Spectrum Channel 3, Frontier FiOS Channel 42, and AT&T UVerse Channel 99



To view the meeting via zoom, submit e-comments to address the city council, or submit a speaker request, visit www.westminster-ca.gov/virtual-meetings.

# Council Meeting Schedule

0-0-0-0-0 SEPTEMBER 0-0-0-0-0 **OCTOBER** 

<del>0-0-0-0-0</del>

\*Meetings are still being conducted virtually via teleconference/web conference. Click here to view agendas.



#### CITY AWARDED \$25,000 GRANT FOR "LITTLE SAIGON BLUEPRINT FOR INVESTMENT"



The Wells Fargo Foundation has awarded the City of Westminster a \$25,000 grant to support the "Little Saigon Blueprint for Investment," a community development effort commissioned by the city in 2020.

The "Little Saigon Blueprint for Investment" aims to build upon existing assets, and identify key improvements to retain and attract diverse businesses and visitors to Little Saigon. The first implementation phase is to conduct community outreach and begin relationship building among the city, local businesses, property owners, and other community organizations.

#### Read the full press release here.







### Westminster Crossing Public Art Component Help us select the final concept!









Pattern A







Pattern B

On February 12, 2019, the Westminster City Council approved the City's first mixed-use affordable housing project, Westminster Crossing. The developer, Meta Housing Corporation, specializes in affordable and mixed-income apartment communities.

In December of 2019, project construction began on the southeast corner of Westminster Boulevard and Locust Street. Construction is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2021.

An exciting part of the project design includes public art on the building walls. The areas colored in green above identify the placeholders for public art along the street corner.

The City is embarking on a collaborative effort to select the artist and artwork. Initially, the effort involved in-person community meetings; however, the effort has evolved due to the pandemic. Now the artist and artwork will be selected through a series of community surveys. We conducted our first survey in December of 2020. As a result of the survey, Sonia Romero was selected as the winning artist. Since then, she produced two concepts for the artwork.

- Pattern A Bougainvillea inspired background
- Pattern B Palm frond inspired background

#### We need your input! Help us select the best concept for the building corner.

Click below for the survey and share this link with your family, friends, and neighbors! <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WestminsterCrossingArt">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WestminsterCrossingArt</a> (Survey closes September 23, 2021)

#### **RESOURCES FOR RENTERS**

#### **Eviction Moratorium**

On June 28, 2021 the Governor signed legislation to extend the eviction moratorium and assist tenants and small property owners impacted by COVID-19.

If you are unable to pay your rent due to a coronavirus-related hardship between September 1, 2020 and September 30, 2021, you must also pay at least 25 percent of the rent due to avoid eviction.

Tenants are still responsible for paying unpaid amounts to property owners. Beginning November 1, 2021, landlords can take tenants to small claims court to recover unpaid rent debt. **Read more here.** 





#### **Affordable Housing**

Looking for an affordable rental unit in Westminster? Click below for a list of affordable rental opportunities. All properties are privately managed. To inquire about availability, rental rates and income qualifications, please contact the respective property management team.

#### <u>City of Westminster - List of Affordable Housing</u>

For additional affordable housing opportunities throughout Orange County, the County of Orange maintains a list of affordable units which can be found at **ochousing.org**.

#### **Fair Housing**

If you want to learn more about fair housing laws, the <u>Fair Housing Foundation</u> provides education to tenants, landlords, property owners, realtors and property management companies. The Fair Housing Foundation provides services to cities throughout Orange County, including Westminster.

<u>Sign-up for virtual workshops</u> to learn more about your rights and responsibilities as a tenant or landlord.

For assistance, call Fair Housing Foundation at (800) 446-3247, or email at <a href="mailto:info@fhfca.org">info@fhfca.org</a>.







# City of Westminster 2021-2029 HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE

The City of Westminster is in the process of updating the 2021-2029 Housing Element. Watch these videos below to learn more about what a housing element is!





#### Why is the City updating its Housing Element?

Each city and county in California is required to have a Housing Element and update it at least every eight years. Updating the Housing Element gives the City a clear picture of housing-related issues such as: housing supply and demand, types of housing available within the City, housing affordability, and homelessness. Once the Housing Element is updated, it must be approved by the California Department of Housing and Community Development. Updating our Housing Element will ensure that we meet State requirements, and make Westminster eligible for State grants and other funding sources. It will also give our elected and appointed officials clear guidance on housing issues facing Westminster. Click here for more information about our Housing Element Update.



**Hours of Operation** 

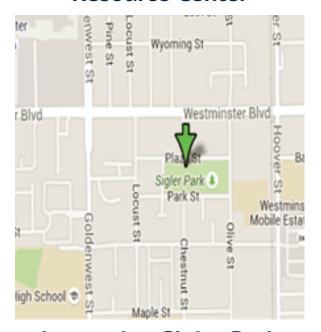
Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday & Friday
9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Thursday 11 a.m. - 8 p.m

(714) 903-1331

The Westminster Family Resource Center (WFRC) serves low-income families residing in the City of Westminster and surrounding cities in Orange County. The WFRC has become the centralized information and referral point for the community. With the assistance of bilingual staff and various partners, individuals can create linkages with necessary resources such as food trolleys, counseling services, enrichment programs, and other services to help strengthen their families. Click here for more information regarding programs and services.

# Westminster Family Resource Center



Located at Sigler Park 7200 Plaza St. Westminster, CA 92683

#### <u>Partners</u>























ASIAN AMERICANS
ADVANCING
JUSTICE
ORANGE COUNTY







## ORANGE COUNTY ONE-STOP MOBILE UNIT

**BUSINESS & EMPLOYMENT SERVICES** 

THE OC ONE-STOP MOBILE UNIT WILL BE AVAILABLE AT WESTMINSTER FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

OCTOBER 13, NOVEMBER 10, DECEMBER 8
10 AM to 4 PM

7200 Plaza Street, Westminster, CA 92683

\*Services are available via appointment only. Walk-up services are not available.





# EMPLOYMENT AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES INCLUDE:

- » Recruiting & Pre-Employment Screening
- » Interviewing & Training
- » Career Development Activities
- » Individual Assessments
- » Local Hiring Events ... AND MORE!





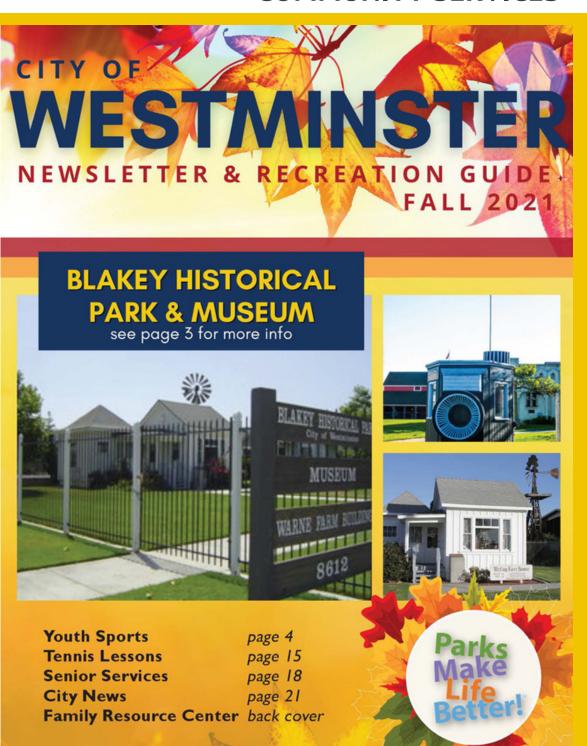


FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT, VISIT OCONESTOP.COM/MOBILE-UNIT OR CALL (714) 480-6500





#### **COMMUNITY SERVICES**



Dedicated to improving and enhancing the lives of residents by providing quality programs, supportive services, and a safe environment.



Call
(714) 895-2860
for more
information!



### **Virtual Recreation Center**

Your place to find fun resources and activities to keep you and your family entertained, active, and informed!





15400 VAN BUREN STREET. MIDWAY CITY, CA 92655 **TUESDAYS, 9AM-4PM** 

#### WILLMORE ELEMENTARY

7122 MAPLE STREET, WESTMINSTER, CA 92683 FRIDAYS, 9AM-4PM

#### FRYBERGER ELEMENTARY

6952 HOOD DRIVE, WESTMINSTER, CA 92683 WEDNESDAYS, 9AM-4PM

#### **WESTMINSTER LIBRARY** (LAWN ON 13TH STREET)

8180 13TH STREET, WESTMINSTER, CA 92683 **SATURDAYS, 9AM-NOON** 

#### **SCHMITT ELEMENTARY**

7200 TRASK AVENUE. WESTMINSTER, CA 92683 THURSDAYS, 9AM-4PM







**Westminster Library is** closed until further notice for remodeling.

Holds may be picked up at **Garden Grove Main Library** (11200 Stanford Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840)



**GET CONNECTED! OCPL.ORG/WIFIONWHEELS** 



August 10 – November 20

Space is limited. Register today! Email: ocplstorytimes@occr.ocgov.com

Join us for a variety of fun family storytimes, live on Zoom! Storytimes take place throughout the week and include Baby Lapsit, Music & Movement, and Bilingual programs.

CITY OF WESTMINSTER

AND

ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

# Water Conservation Art Contest

SEPTEMBER 20, 2021 - OCTOBER 25, 2021

Eligible participants must be enrolled in middle or high schools within the City of Westminster's boundaries, which include: Johnson, McGarvin, Stacey, and Warner Middle Schools; and La Quinta and Westminster High Schools.

1ST PLACE: \$1,000

**2ND PLACE: \$750** 

**3RD PLACE: \$500** 

#### CLICK HERE FOR MORE DETAILS







**SINCE 1933** 

#### OC BUS YOUTH RIDE FREE PROMOTION



#### AT A GLANCE

#### AREA OF BENEFIT:

All 34 Orange County cities and the County of Orange

#### PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS:

Orange County Youth (Ages 6 – 18)

#### FUNDING:

State of California Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP)

#### WEBSITE:

OCbus.com/YouthRideFree

#### CONTACT:

Ryan Maloney rmaloney@octa.net (714) 560-5451

Fact sheet as of 7/16/21

#### **OVERVIEW**

The Youth Ride Free program is a promotional pass that allows youth 18 and under to ride all OC Bus fixed-route buses for free. The six-month program will start in September 2021 and passes will be valid through February 28, 2022.

Passes and marketing information will be distributed in partnership with Orange County schools, with parents able to request a pass from participating schools, the OCTA store, or at OCbus.com/YouthRideFree.

#### **BENEFITS**

- Offers a promotional free fare for youth 18 and under, providing a reliable transportation option for education, work, and leisure.
- Promotional free pass valid on any OC Bus fixed-route service, including weekends and holidays.
- Supports the economic recovery of Orange County and helps mitigate the financial impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic on low income and diverse populations.
- Allows youth from all over Orange County to equitably re-engage with education and other opportunities following pandemic restrictions.
- Helps introduce new youth riders to public transit, encouraging long term usage.
- Improves mobility options, reduce congestion, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Provides rider feedback and information for future youth program development.

#### **FUNDING**

This Youth Free Fare promotion is grant-funded by the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program through California Climate Investments, a statewide initiative that puts billions of Cap-and-Trade dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy, and improving public health and the environment – particularly in disadvantaged communities.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**







Orange County Transportation Authority

550 S. Main St P.O. Box 14184 Orange, CA 92863-1584 (714) 560-OCTA www.octa.net



- "Youth Ride Free Fare" pass will be a free magnetic stripe OC Bus pass, good for six months.
- A multilingual "parental request form" will be available through schools, the OCTA store, and at OCbus.com/YouthRideFree.



#### COMMUNITY PRESERVATION UNIT

Dedicated to Beautifying the City of Westminster

### **Community Preservation Unit**

Complaint = Clean-up



Before

After



# A friendly reminder from THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION UNIT (CPU)

A complaint = a clean-up! If you see discarded items, let the Community Preservation Unit know.

Call 714-548-3476 or download the My Westminster mobile app for quick and easy reporting!

# **No-Cost Mattress Recycling**



#### We do not accept:

Excessively wet, damaged, twisted, frozen or soiled mattresses or box springs

Items infested with bed bugs

Fold-out sofa beds, futon frames/bases, mattress pads/toppers

Water beds, air mattresses, car beds

Infant & child products, infant carriers, lounge pads or crib bumpers

Sleeping bags, pillows

Other furniture or sleep products

# How do I get rid of my old mattress?

Residents can drop off mattress, box springs, and futon mattresses separated from the base or frame for no-cost recycling.

Midway City Sanitary District 14451 Cedarwood Ave. Westminster, CA 92683 Monday - Friday 8am-4pm



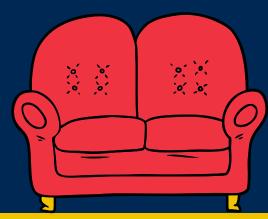


For more details, please call (714) 893-3553 or visit <a href="https://www.midwaycitysanitarydistrict.com/bulky-item-service">www.midwaycitysanitarydistrict.com/bulky-item-service</a>.

# Schedule a Bulky Item Pickup!

The District provides a monthly bulky item service for the disposal of some appliances and furniture, and will collect two such items from each household approximately every thirty days. For more details, please call (714) 893-3553 at least one week in advance.

Normal items that the District will pick up are: furniture, appliances, patio furniture, large plastic toys, lawn care equipment, television sets, computer monitors, and water heaters. The District does **NOT** pickup: carpet, rugs, glass, mirrors, construction materials, wood, fencing, doors, pallets, and exercise equipment. **PLEASE DO NOT PUT YOUR ITEMS ON THE CURB UNTIL SCHEDULED FOR PICKUP.** 





After several exceptionally dry winters, the Department of Water Resources has marked 2021 as the third-driest year on record for the State. On July 8, 2021 Governor Newsom called for Californians to voluntarily reduce 15% water consumption. While you can count on clean, safe, reliable water when you turn on the tap, water is not limitless. We must all do our part to continue to use water wisely.

For more information, visit <u>Water Restrictions/Watering Schedule</u>.

IN PARTNERSHIP:







#### PUBLIC SAFETY MESSAGE FROM ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY

#### 2-1-1 HELPLINE



If you need help finding non-emergency services in your area, 211 Orange County is available 24 hours a day. 211 is fast, free, confidential and available in more than 150 languages. In addition to calling 211, you can also visit their website at **211oc.org**.



211 is a nonprofit organization that provides information and referrals for thousands of services, including shelter, health care and job placement.



Orange County Fire Authority ocfa.org

(714) 573-6200







#### 211 Programs and Services

Specially trained 211 operators connect callers with more than 2,000 local government and nonpro it organizations. These agencies have programs dedicated to many personal and family needs, including:

- Food
- · Affordable housing
- Rent/mortgage assistance
- Domestic violence shelters
- Prenatal care
- Child development
- After school programs
- Senior services
- Healthcare and insurance
- Job training
- Transportation
- Substance abuse
- Funeral services

#### **Calling 211 During Emergencies**

211 also serves as a public information system during disasters or local emergencies, providing information on road closures, emergency shelters, and evacuation.

# Did you know...

City Hall, Community Services, and the Westminster Police Department lobby are open Monday - Thursday from 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. for walkins (7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. for WPD).

Appointments are still encouraged.

<u>Click here to schedule an appointment.</u>

There will be no street sweeping on September 29 and September 30.

You can now apply, renew, or pay for your business license online through HdL Companies. For more information, visit: <a href="https://westminster.hdlgov.com">https://westminster.hdlgov.com</a> or call (657) 622-0222.

September is Suicide Awareness Prevention Month. For resources on how you can help raise awareness, visit NAMI-OC.

Need to pay your water bill in person? Visit our Corporation Yard!

Westminster Corporation Yard 14381 Olive St. Westminster, CA 92683

(714) 894-3796

Hours: Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

The City of Westminster has a YouTube account!



Click here to subscribe!

#### **OTHER NEWS**

# Visiting City Hall?

Make an appointment!

Text (714) 947-2859 OR click here!



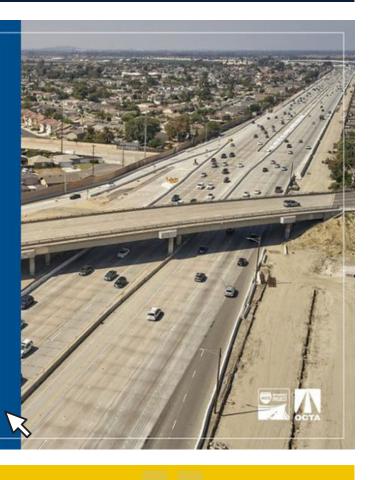
ONLINE WEBINAR

### **NEIGHBORHOOD** MEETING

Springdale Street Bridge **Construction Update** 

Thursday, Sept. 16, 2021 4 to 5 P.M.

Join Webinar





www.westminster-ca.gov/coronavirus





**405 IMPROVEMENT PROJECT CONSTRUCTION UPDATES** OCTA.NET/405MAP

